

Transgender Equity Council Minutes

Regular Meeting

August 13, 2020 - 05:00 PM

Online Meeting

Members : Shor Salkas (Chair), Hunta Williams (Chair), Commarrah Bashar, Grant Berg, Nicolas Cruz, Ray Lockman, Morgen Sedlacek, and Destiny Xiong (Quorum - 8)

Members Absent: KC Pavus, Emma Grey, Alma Miklasevics, Andre Reed, Chase Bakken

Others Present: Melissa Lund (interpreter), Koko Chino (interpreter), Erin Sikkink (Office of Violence Prevention), Shunu Shrestha (City Coordinator's Office), Sasha Cotton (Office of Violence Prevention)

Staff : Track Trachtenberg

Call To Order - 5:12 PM

1. Roll Call.
2. Adoption of the agenda. – Commarrah motioned, Ray seconded, 8 ayes, no nays, 5 absent, motion passes
3. Acceptance of minutes - Commarrah motioned, Ray seconded, 8 ayes, no nays, 5 absent, motion passes
 1. [Jun 11, 2020 Transgender Equity Council](#)
 2. [Jul 9, 2020 Transgender Equity Council](#)

Presentation

4. Office of Violence Prevention Presentation
 1. OVP was started at end of 2018 (budget/ordinance) but didn't officially start until January 2019; started making grant awards in June 2019
 2. Started strategic planning Sept 2019 with Cities United (focus on reducing Black and Brown male homicides)
 3. December 2019: began to gather data on what community wanted OVP to focus on, but had to pause due to COVID
 4. Look at violence as a public health issue
 1. Public health: define the problem → identify risk and protective factors → develop and test prevention strategies → assure widespread adoption
 1. Risk factors (identified by CDC): increase the likelihood that person will experience harm or engage in violence (exposure to violence, involvement with substances, low parental involvement, diminished economic opportunities, low commitment to school/school failure, high level of transiency)
 2. Protective factors (identified by CDC): decrease the potential harmful effects of a risk factor or likelihood that someone will engage in violence (commitment to school, connectedness to family or other adults, positive social orientation, skills for

realistic planning – stress management, parental/family use of constructive strategies for coping with problems – conflict resolution, involvement in social activities)

3. These are not guarantees – just about increased or decreased likelihood
2. Violence is preventable, not inevitable
3. Many factors (individual, relationship, community, societal level) – violence is not about the actions of “bad” people
4. Violence is a cycle, and we need to support people on a path towards healing and away from perpetrating violence
5. Violence is multifaceted, so solutions must be as well
6. Connection between personal experience and systemic issues
7. Three phases: up front (primary prevention), in the thick (secondary prevention - early intervention, at first sign of risk or as response to immediate threat), aftermath (tertiary prevention – long term-response to prevent repeat violence, dealing with consequences and promoting healing and restoration)
8. Timeline for 2020 (slightly delayed because of COVID)
 1. Jan: released survey to determine office focus
 2. Feb-April: focus groups (figuring out now how to do them in a valuable way virtually)
 3. April-May: had planned on public reflection sessions
 4. Brand launch recently: Minneapolis: The face of violence prevention looks like all of us
 5. Working on strategic plan, but has been delayed because 5-person staff and all also have COVID responsibilities
9. Staff: in Health Dept under Commissioner Gretchen Musicant, staff of 5 including Sasha and Erin
10. <http://www2.minneapolismn.gov/minneapolisforward/violenceprevention>
11. Programmatic Work:
 1. Next Step: hospital-based response team, serving victims of violent assault treated at North Memorial or HCMC
 1. Credible messengers as Violence Intervention Specialists

2. Addressing trauma, healing from more than just physical injury – narrative medicine approach
 3. Reduce rate of violent re-injury → support positive development and holistic healing for victims and affected families → interrupt cycle of recurrent violence
 4. Since 2016, nearly 400 participants, and less than 7% have returned with same or similar injury (in other places, average is 40%)
2. Pathways to a New Beginning
 1. Alternative sentences for individuals convicted of a gross misdemeanor gun offense (generally carrying a gun without a permit)
 2. Reduce recidivism, 6-9 months of programming with case manager (recidivism rate has been 22.5%, with n=7)
 3. Project LIFE (Group Violence Intervention)
 1. What folks might think of as gangs – three pronged (moral engagement with offenders, community moral voice, focused law enforcement message)
 2. Partnership of law enforcement, community members, and social service providers
 3. Until 2020, had seen significant decrease in gang member involved non-fatal shootings (and, these are data sets from law enforcement, and only on shootings, so this doesn't measure everything)

12. Questions:

1. Are people not committed to school because the schools aren't creating supportive environments, parents not home because of jobs at inconvenient hours? How are we looking at this on a larger than just individual level?
 1. Take a social-ecological model (interplay between various layers, acknowledges importance of social conditions)
2. What services exist for Deaf folks? Are DDBHH folks included in data? – Erin and Sasha will get back to Track
3. Definition of violence: physical, sexual, verbal abuse, structural and governmental violence
4. What would a presentation tailored to trans folks, especially BIPOC trans folks, look like? No information about trans folks in the slides – what is the work being done in OVP to address violence against trans folks?

1. Happy to go back and create a more tailored presentation/more detail-oriented conversation

[Minneapolis Office of Violence Prevention Transgender Equity Council Regular Meeting Presentation 2020.pdf](#)

Discussion

5. Budget:
 1. OutFront MN Youth Summit Tabling (\$250) – Morgen motioned, Commarraah, 8 ayes, no naves, 5 absent, motion passes
 2. Black Excellence Virtual Event Sponsorship (\$1000) – Commarraah motioned, Morgen seconded, 8 ayes, 5 absent, no naves, motion passes
 3. Budget for Hunta's training: \$6,060 – want to leave some money for that
6. Co-Chair Election September
 1. Contact Track a week before if you're planning on running!
7. Subcommittee Updates – postponed to next meeting
 4. PACE
 5. Training
 6. Summit Planning
 7. Policy
8. Guest Speaker Schedule and Template of Questions for Guest Speakers and Commissions TEC Presents to - postponed to next meeting

Adjournment 7:01 PM

Notice:

A portion of this meeting may be closed to the public pursuant to MN Statutes Section 13D.03 or 13D.05.

Notice: This meeting may involve the remote participation by members, either by telephone or other electronic means, due to the local public health emergency (novel coronavirus pandemic), pursuant to the provisions of MN Statutes Section 13D.021

Next Transgender Equity Council meeting: Sep 10, 2020

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